AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A secondary battery comprising a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and an electrolyte, ~~wherein:~~

wherein the positive electrode includes a positive electrode mixture layer capable of occluding and releasing light metal;

wherein the negative electrode includes a negative electrode mixture layer capable of occluding and releasing light metal;

wherein a capacity of the negative electrode is expressed by the sum of a capacity component by occluding and releasing light metal and a capacity component by precipitating and dissolving light metal; and

means for stably precipitating the light metal in the negative electrode in a state where an open circuit voltage is lower than an overcharge voltage,

wherein the ratio (A/B) of thickness A of the positive electrode mixture layer and thickness B of the negative electrode mixture layer is 0.92 or more.

2. (Original) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the thickness A of the positive electrode mixture layer and the thickness B of the negative electrode mixture layer lies within the range of 80μm to 250μm, both inclusive.

3. (Original) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the negative electrode mixture layer contains a carbonaceous material.

4. (Original) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the negative electrode mixture layer contains graphite.

5. (Original) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the light metal includes lithium.

6. (Original) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrolyte contains $LiPF_6$.

7. (Original) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrolyte contains a nonaqueous solvent and electrolytic salt, where the concentration of the electrolytic salt in the nonaqueous solvent is 2.0 mol/kg or less.

8. (New) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio (A/B) is 1.0 or less.

9. (New) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ration (A/B) is less than 0.967.

10. (New) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the light metal precipitates in the negative electrode in a state that an open circuit voltage is lower than an overcharge voltage.

11. (New) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 8, wherein the open circuit voltage is from 0V to 4.2V.

12. (New) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 8, wherein the positive electrode mixture layer contains lithium composite oxide.